


Planning and Development Department Update

DATE: August 5, 2011
TO: Mayor Setti D. Warren
FROM: Candace Havens, Director of Planning and Development 
RE: Friday Report
CC: Board of Aldermen
Robert Rooney, Chief Operating Officer

This weekly report is intended to keep you informed of current development proposals and other noteworthy planning and development activities as follows:

Monday 8/8/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Newton Commission on Disability, 6:30 p.m., Room 209
Tuesday 8/9/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Traffic Council, 10:00 a.m., Room 202• Economic Development Commission, 7:30 p.m., Room 209• Auburndale Historic District Commission, 7:30 p.m., Room 202
Wednesday 8/10/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Newton Housing Partnership, 7:45 a.m., Room 202
Thursday 8/11/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Newton Upper Falls Historic District Commission, Cancelled

- **Newton Commission on Disability:** The Newton Commission on Disability is meeting on **Monday, August 8th** at 6:30 p.m. in Room 209 (not the basement cafeteria). The agenda includes a recommendation to approve the July 11th meeting minutes; review of the updated CDBG access projects report; discussion of the following: request for a variance for the All Newton Music School, the Mayor's Code of Conduct form, draft policy for handicap parking revenue and hiring an ADA Coordinator; and reports on any issues of potential non-compliance in the City. **Contact Trisha Guditiz at 617.796.1156 or tguditiz@newtonma.gov.**
- **Traffic Council:** The Council will meet on **Tuesday August 9th** at 10:00 a.m. in Room 202. The following items will be discussed: Aldermen Baker, Fuller and Schnipper, requesting installation of pedestrian-activated warning light at a crosswalk location to be determined on **Beacon Street between Hammond Street and Reservoir Avenue**, together with suitable illumination, or other enhancements, to facilitate safe pedestrian crossing while maintaining through traffic flow; Alderman Rice, requesting a "Do Not Enter" Sign at the intersection of **Beethoven Avenue and Beacon Street** on school days during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Note: *The following trial was approved at the July 28 Traffic Council meeting: Do Not Enter Beethoven Road from Beacon Street and from Evelyn Road, 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM and 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM, school days.* The following items are expected to be voted No Action Necessary: Planning Department, requesting a discussion related to changes to the TIGER Permit Parking Program and the public way section of **Elm Road**; David Koses on behalf of the Jackson Homestead, requesting a handicap parking space on Jackson Road in the vicinity of the **Jackson Homestead**; David Koses on behalf of the Jackson Homestead, requesting changes to reduce commuter parking on the south side of **Washington Street**, in the proximity of the Jackson Homestead. Discussion item: creation of a Traffic Council policy limiting stationary radar devices to areas within a defined distance of school zones. **Contact David Koses at 617.796.1133 or dkoses@newtonma.gov.**
- **Economic Development Commission:** The Commission will meet on **Tuesday, August 9th** at 7:30 p.m. in Room 209 to continue their discussion of their Strategic Business Outreach program and develop strategies to engage and assist Newton's business community. **Contact Amanda Stout at 617.796.1127 or astout@newtonma.gov.**

- **Auburndale Historic District Commission:** The Commission will meet on **Tuesday, August 9th** at 7:30 p.m. in Room 202. Items on the agenda include: **19 Berkeley Place**, request to install scoreboard; **24 Hancock Street**, request to replace porch columns and fascia boards; **63 Hawthorne Avenue**, request to install window, demolish rear addition, and add new addition. Also, request to demolish existing garage and construct new garage as well as alter driveway; **21 Central Street**, request to construct a second floor garage addition; **232 Grove Street**, request to construct a rear addition, second floor, and replace windows. Also, request to remove and replace driveway. **Administrative Discussion:** Review minutes from meeting on July 12th. **Contact Brian Lever at 617.796.1129 or blever@newtonma.gov.**
- **Newton Housing Partnership:** The Housing Partnership will meet on **Wednesday, August 10th** in Room 202. The agenda this month is as follows: review and approval of June and July meeting minutes; discussion on subcommittee participation and implementing the ad hoc committee's recommendations; presentation on the Policy and Programs Subcommittee's proposed workplan (including short and long-term goals and accomplishments); and other business. **Contact Robert Muollo at 617.796.1146 or rmuollo@newtonma.gov.**
- **Department's Weekly Report Going Green:** Over the years our Planning Department's Weekly Report (Friday Report) has continued to grow in circulation. While we're excited for people to read our information, we're hoping to move to a more green distribution. Besides saving paper and postage, it also allows you to receive the information more timely. For those of you who are not currently receiving it via email and who would like to change, please let us know by sending an email to Norine Silton at nsilton@newtonma.gov. Be sure to put "Going Green" in your subject line. Thank you!
- **Got LEED?:** The City of Newton is interested in tracking LEED-Certified construction within the City. If you know of a building that has received or is intending to receive this distinction please let us know! **Contact Alexandra Ananth at 617.796.1121 or aananth@newtonma.gov.**
- **Newton Upper Falls Historic District Commission:** The August meeting of the Newton Upper Falls Historic District Commission has been **cancelled**. The next filing deadline is **Wednesday, August 24th** and the next scheduled meeting is **Thursday, September 8th**. **Contact Katy Holmes at 617.796.1143 or kholmes@newtonma.gov.**
- **SAVE THE DATE - FAR Public Forum:** The Planning and Development Department will offer a public forum on **Monday, September 19th** at 9:00 a.m., location to be announced, to review and answer questions about the recently adopted new floor area ratio (FAR) regulations for one- and two-family homes in residential zoning districts, which will **take effect October 15, 2011**. Prior to the meeting we encourage you to visit our website www.newtonma.gov/planning/FAR.php where you'll find FAQ's, FAR calculator and more helpful information. The Inspectional Services and Planning Departments are asking those submitting applications for building permits and special permits to please use the worksheet on the website (also available at the ISD counter at City Hall) to calculate FAR under both current and new regulations. The data may help applicants decide whether they wish to wait until October 15th to submit an application and will also be used to monitor implementation of the new FAR regulations. **For more information please view the FAQ's from the web link above, email us at FAR@newtonma.gov or call 617.796.1120.**
- **Community Preservation Committee:** The Committee's next meeting on **Wednesday, August 17th** at 7:00 p.m. in the Newton Senior Center (345 Walnut Street, Newtonville) will include a **public hearing & possible funding vote** on an off-cycle proposal for **Newton History Museum Archives construction** (\$461,602 request); discussion of a pre-proposal for affordable housing (Myrtle Village, Curve Street, West Newton; \$1,400,264 potential request); and planning for special neighborhood events in 2011-12. From www.newtonma.gov/cpa, click on 'Committees & Meetings' for full agendas or on 'Proposals & Projects' for full-text documents. For more information **contact Alice E. Ingerson, Community Preservation Program Manager, 617.796.1144 or aingerson@newtonma.gov.**